

USSR

Reference: 3/PPDE/T60

17-2 17-2 17-2

1. INFORMATION FROM SOVIET AMBASSADOR
2. BOMBING OF LONDON
3. PRESS REPORT ON OBSERVATION SYSTEM

(1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 947

27th Aug. 40

To DIRECTOR.

1. The MASTER of the METRO [KHOZYAIN METRO][i] has told me that last week the British again secretly received SAUSAGE-DEALER [KOLBASNIKI][ii] peace conditions:

- A. Poland [2 groups garbled] DANZIG corridor.
- B. Autonomy of Czechoslovakia.

The SAUSAGE-DEALERS are to get the Colonies.

Apparently CHURCHILL gave a definite refusal. His Parliamentary Secretary told the MASTER of the METRO that it was hoped that SASHA [iii] would enter the war in December. This would mean the acquisition of SASHA's fleet, arms and money and would have a tremendous effect on morale. It was unimportant that SASHA's army would not be ready in 1941. It was important to obtain arms for their two million strong army which was short of tanks, guns and machine-guns. Of the [1 group unidentified] rifles received from SASHA, by the way, 50 percent have proved unfit to use. The 14-ton cruiser tank is the main one in production, but difficulties are being met in manufacturing the necessary armour for it. The aircraft industry is working very successfully; apparently output is approaching 2,200 aircraft a month, 75 percent of them being fighters. The MASTER thinks that the basic aim of the British is to sit it out until the spring and then prepare for operations against Italy, whilst keeping up the blockade and the war in the air against the SAUSAGE-DEALERS.

2. Last night the SAUSAGE-DEALERS bombed LONDON, two or three aircraft being in the air at a time. For six hours not more than 12 aircraft in all

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3/PPDT/T60

flew over LONDON. Despite the [R% activity] of over 80 searchlights and the A.A. guns not one of them was shot down. Not a single British fighter was observed during the night.

3. The press reports that the first line of observation and communications is a warship stationed far out at sea. The second line is a flotilla of fishing vessels, the largest out at sea and the small ones inshore. These are connected with the shore and among themselves by radio. The third line is observation [C% posts] on land.

No. 242

BARCH [iv]

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Comments: [i] MASTER of the METRO: the Soviet Ambassador.  
[ii] SAUSAGE-DEALERS: the Germans.  
[iii] SASHA: the United States.  
[iv] BARCH: Possibly Simon Davidovich KREMER, whose official post was Secretary to the Soviet Military Attaché in LONDON. He was appointed in 1937 and is thought to have left sometime in 1946. The covername BARCH occurs as a LONDON addressee and signatory between 3rd March 1940 and 10th October 1940, after which it is superseded by the covername BRICH.